

Wilson Wants Wire Control Time Extended

Washington Doubts President Will Seek U. S. Ownership at This Time

Opposition Is Growing To Reported Plans

Congressmen Object to Seizure After War Necessity Is Declared Past

Tribune Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—Extension of the period of wire control will be asked by President Wilson in his message to Congress next week, according to reports at the Capitol today.

It is not expected that the President will come out directly for government ownership of the telephone, telegraph and cable lines at that time, but merely for a continuation of the present control and operation until the country has returned to normal conditions. Since the period of railroad control following the war is twenty-one months, it is suggested the same extension will be expected for the wires.

Under the law, government operation of the telephone and telegraph lines ceases the day peace is declared. Had the Administration intended to permit this law to stand, it is held to be highly improbable that the cables would have been seized a week ago or that the Western Union and Postal lines would have been merged before the same time. It is the expectation that the peace treaty will be signed before the present Congress expires in March, thus leaving only three months for Postmaster General Burleson to experiment with a unified government system.

Ownership Plans Delayed
Explanations made of the bill for government ownership of the wireless plants under the Navy Department lead to the belief that the Administration is ready to declare flatly for government ownership of the telephones and telegraph and cable lines.

Whatever may be the attitude of the Administration, it is doubtful whether any legislation of this kind will be enacted at the closing session of the 65th Congress. The apparent attempt of the Executive Department to get and retain hold of public utilities under the guise of war necessity after the war has been won have created a bitter feeling in Congress which is confined to neither party.

"Go Slow," Says Congress
The disposition in Congress will be to go slow and give the Administration nothing until it produces tangible proof of the necessity for action.

Except for the unexpected seizure of the cables, Congress might have been willing to extend the wire control for a few months. But such is not the case now. Even several advocates of government ownership are against the extension of the war power. They object to the adoption of such a policy by Executive order on the ground that it is the duty of Congress to determine the nation's policy after the people of the country have had full opportunity to express themselves.

Traffic Club Opposes Government Ownership

A warning against what was declared to be propaganda from Washington in favor of permanent government control of public utilities was sounded last night at the annual meeting of the Traffic Club of New York, held at the Waldorf-Astoria. Resolutions were adopted unanimously calling on the government to restore all transportation companies to their private owners as soon as business would permit.

The chief speaker of the evening was Lewis J. Spence, director of traffic of the Southern Pacific lines. It was his contention that since Director-General McAdoo had resigned, there was no need of a successor being appointed. Mr. Spence asked why President Wilson should not go before the next Congress and notify it that he intends to relinquish government control of utilities immediately.

"I believe," Mr. Spence asserted, "that the public desires a restoration of competition."
Among other speakers were R. E. M. Cowie, vice-president of the Eastern district of the American Express Company, and Felix S. Subba, general manager of the American Sugar Refining Company.

Federal License On Autos Is Cut Out of Tax Bill

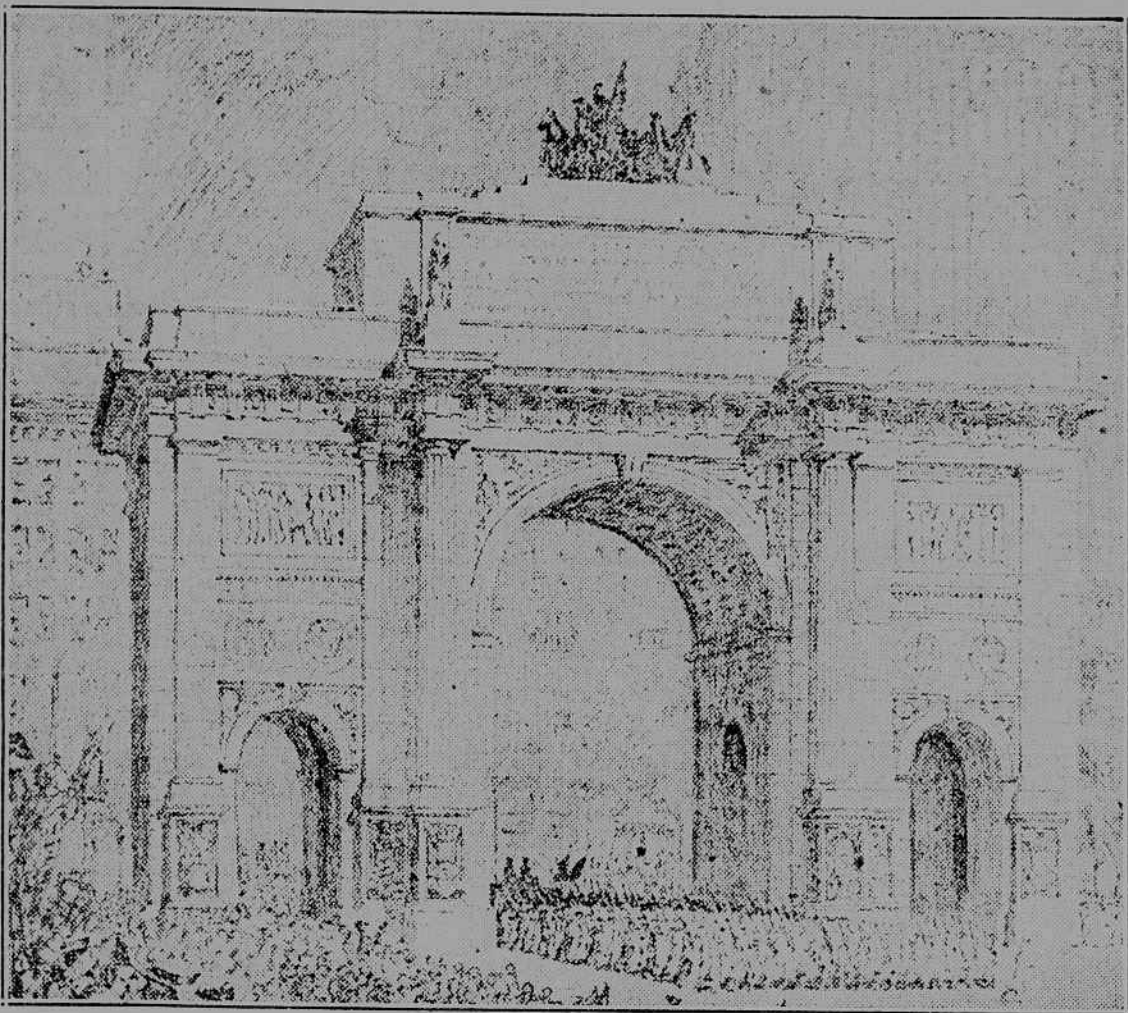
WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—In further revision of the war revenue bill the Senate Finance Committee today struck out entirely the proposed Federal license tax on the use of automobiles and motorcycles, which ranged from ten to fifty dollars annually, in the House bill, according to House power and from five to twenty-five dollars under the plan previously adopted by the Senate committee.

This eliminated \$36,000,000 in estimated revenues under the Senate rates and about \$73,000,000 the House had planned to raise from this source. Chairman Simmons explained that in reducing the bill to \$6,000,000,000 for 1919, it was found that the motor vehicle license tax was unnecessary. The tax on the sale of automobiles, however, remains in the bill.

The tax on patent medicines and similar articles was again changed by the committee upon reconsideration today. Instead of the 3 per cent tax proposed on manufacturers' sales, at the request of the interests involved, the committee decided to impose a stamp tax upon retail sales of 1 cent for each 25 cents paid by consumers for such articles.

Over the protest of the Republican members of the committee the Democrats today began work on the tax provisions for 1920. Chairman Simmons presented his 1920 programme, recently announced, and it was printed for use and a vote later on adoption. It provides for reduction of the excess profit rates to about one-third more than those under the existing law, elimination entirely of war profits taxes, continuation of the special miscellaneous taxes as now contained in the bill at reduced rates and reduction of the normal rate on individual and corporate income taxes from 12 to 8 per cent, with a rate of only 4 per cent applied to individual incomes up to \$6,000.

OFFICIAL SKETCH OF PROPOSED VICTORY ARCH



City's Victory Arch Will Be Erected at Madison Square

Committee Chooses Fifth Avenue Intersection and Calls for Designs

Fifth Avenue at Twenty-fourth Street has been selected as the best available site for the erection of a memorial arch in honor of the city's heroic dead.

The committee appointed by Mayor

Hylan, headed by Rodman Wanamaker and Paul W. Bartlett, submitted its recommendations to the Mayor last night with a design for a temporary arch drawn by Thomas Hastings, which is to be supplanted later by a permanent structure.

Mr. Hastings said his sketch should be considered only as a suggestion and invited the aid of architects and sculptors in the endeavor of the committee to produce something really worthy of the men who have made the supreme sacrifice for humanity, America and their home city.

The Madison Square site, the committee believes, is the only one where an arch on so large a scale might be erected. At Fifth Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street there is room for two abutments, one slightly encroaching upon the park on the east and the other standing on the small plot of land caused by the intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue now occupied by the Worth obelisk.

The arch will be eighty feet high

and will bridge the entire width of the avenue, a little over fifty feet. The design proposed is almost Roman in character with a considerable amount of sculpture illustrating some of the great battles of the war.

A great quadriga representing the triumph of justice or democracy is planned as a crowning feature of the memorial, and while simplicity of design is to be the principal aim its size will, it is believed, lend great dignity. The temporary arch, and probably its permanent successor, will be the same width as the Arc de Triomphe in the Place de l'Étoile, Paris. It will not be so high, however.

The construction of the temporary arch will be hastened as much as possible, so that in some form it will be ready to welcome the returning troops within the next few months. The memorial is to be erected by the people of New York. Beginning tomorrow, 20,000 members of the police and the police reserves will receive contributions of pennies, dimes and dollars to meet the cost of the work.

manding the Department of the East, added that the guard provided for New York City is, particularly under present conditions, obviously inadequate.

Infantry Battalion Coming

"Ever since the first peace celebration," said he, "the celebration of the peace has been the subject of much manifest, and I have been doing my utmost with Washington to have the guard increased."

Although he has had no definite word on the subject, General Bell added, he understands that the War Department is now planning to send a battalion of infantry—1,000 men—here to prepare a recurrence of any such disorder as the gathering of Socialists in the city. General Bell is also, he announced, instituting an investigation into the soldiers' actual share in the fracas following which many men under him who may seem to merit it will be disciplined.

Inquiry at the office of Admiral Raper, whose men are accused of having been the prime instigators in the rush on the Garden, developed the fact that no similar investigation has been considered thus far by that department.

"At 10 o'clock," it was said, "we received a call from the police for help. We said we would send some men at once. Then we were told the men were not needed. So we did nothing. That is all we know about the affair."

Red Flag Is Barred From City in Bill Passed by Aldermen

The anti-red flag ordinance was passed by the Board of Aldermen yesterday with only the Socialists and one Democrat, William P. McGarry, of Brooklyn, voting against it. The ordinance will become law when Mayor Hylan signs it.

The Socialists, through their leader, Algon Lee, served notice that they would ask the courts to set the ordinance aside as unconstitutional. The measure, which provides a penalty of \$100 or ten days imprisonment, or both, reads:

"No red or black flag and no banner, ensign, or sign, having upon it any inscription opposed to organized government, or which is sacrilegious, or which may be derogatory to public morals, shall be displayed or carried through the streets."

Alderman Alexander Braunstein, a Socialist of the Bronx, read a letter written by Mayor Gaynor in 1911 defending the use of the red flag.

"Mayor Hylan, like his illustrious

Santa Sorts 100,000 Christmas Parcels Daily for Boys Overseas

It would do one of those soldier boys overseas a sight of good if he could glimpse for a moment what is going on inside of Pier 86, on the East River. The scene would warm his heart. It would fill him with confidence, so that on Christmas Eve he could hang up a sock on a cannon wheel or elsewhere and feel sure that next morning something would be waiting for him—that package from home.

The biggest job that Santa Claus ever tackled is being performed inside of Pier 86 in a manner which efficiency experts say is marvelous, and also in a manner that makes it certain that all packages will be on time. There it is that the hundreds of thousands of Christmas packages for the American Expeditionary Forces are received, sorted and sped on their journey across the Atlantic.

100,000 Packages a Day
Every package destined to give Christmas cheer to an American fighting man in France must go through this mail station. The packages are coming in now by the carload, the present average being about 100,000 parcels a day. Four hours is the average period that a parcel spends on Pier 86, more than 1,400 mail clerks on the job. Reinforcing them are 150 soldiers pressed into temporary Christmas service.

The pier affords a heated workroom of 900 by 144 feet. W. H. Riddle, acting superintendent of the railway mail service in New York, said this was the biggest mail service workroom in the world. Yet it is none too large for the biggest task that ever confronted Santa Claus. Mail clerks, mail bags and packages occupy every nook of space.

The first ship to carry Christmas packages was the Manchuria which departed November 25. Santa Claus held up the ship's sailing a full twenty-four hours in order that it might do this service. This is said to be the first government-controlled ship that has been delayed for any reason since this country entered the war.

Prompt Delivery Assured
As November 30, next Saturday, is the last day Christmas packages for overseas will be received, no tail official feel sure the final parcels will be on shipboard by December 8 in plenty of time for Christmas delivery even into Germany.

A number of the packages are addressed to "Some American Soldier Who Otherwise Would Not Receive a Christmas Present." These packages are being sent through the Red Cross. These parcels insure that there will not be a single empty stocking "over there."

predecessor," said Alderman Braunstein, "also writes letters, but with this difference: Mayor Gaynor's letters were examples of English, profound and philosophical, and worth reading, while Mayor Hylan's letters are fit only for the comic section of a yellow journal."

"It never will happen again."

Radical Societies Seek Amnesty for Political Prisoners
A national movement to obtain the immediate release, by means of amnesty, of all Socialists, anarchists and conscientious objectors held in Federal and military prisons for violations of the espionage act and opposition to the conscription law was begun yesterday by two local radical societies, the League for the Amnesty of Political Prisoners and the Bureau of Legal Advice.

According to Miss M. E. Fitzgerald, secretary of the Political Amnesty League, the purpose of the society is "to educate the public to the fundamental distinction between political offenses and ordinary crimes." Miss Fitzgerald said a letter had been sent

to President Wilson asking that he declare an amnesty, and that a letter also had been sent to Secretary of War Baker asking him to free before Thanksgiving Day all conscientious objectors who have been court-martialed. While no definite steps other than writing these letters have been taken by this league, Miss Fitzgerald said that meetings would be held all over the country to "crystallize public sentiment in this matter so that it can be made a subject for representation at the general peace conference."

The other organization, the Bureau of Legal Advice, which has an office at 118 East Twenty-eighth Street, seems to be concerned principally with conscientious objectors. In a letter sent by the secretary, Fannie M. Witherspoon, a plea is made for financial aid to fight for the release of more than two hundred conscientious objectors at Fort Leavenworth. The letter also states that 1,700 other persons who are now serving terms in jail must not be forgotten.

Some of those who would be affected by an amnesty would be Eugene V. Debs, Emma Goldman, Alexander Berkman, Rose Pastor Stokes, Scott Nearing, John Reed, Benjamin Kraft, "Big Bill" Haywood and Roger Baldwin. Approximately 2,000 other Socialists, anarchists, Bolsheviks and internationalists would be freed.

Railway Telegraphers Vote to Go on Strike
General Chairmen and Secretaries Cast Ballots Representing 45,000 Men

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—A vote favoring a strike of railroad telegraphers on all the roads in the United States and Canada was cast in Chicago today by the general chairmen and secretaries of the fifty-one divisions of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers in Western and Middle Western States.

The Chicago meeting was representative of 45,000 government employees, who are dissatisfied with the supplements to General Order No. 27 affecting wages and working conditions. It was voted to reject all these. Telegrams were sent to the meetings in other cities asking similar action.

Miss Mortimer Indicted

Accused of Manslaughter as Result of Auto Accident

An indictment charging manslaughter in the second degree was presented to Judge Humphries in the County Court in Long Island City yesterday by the Queens County Grand Jury against Miss Edith Mortimer, of Roslyn, Long Island.

The indictment grew out of an automobile collision in Broadway, Flushing, on October 19. Miss Mortimer's car in avoiding a collision with a coal truck ran over and killed Nathan Wasserberger, of Maspeth, and Martin de Mato, of 27 Front Street, Brooklyn. Miss Mortimer is at liberty on \$15,000 bail.

His Christmas Overseas

will be made more enjoyable by the receipt of money from home. The limited size of the cartons which are permitted to be sent precludes forwarding the material comforts from this side. Send him the means to make his own purchases.

The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company

through its Paris office offers franc circular checks payable without charge throughout France, at all offices of the Comptoir National d'Escompte, Credit Lyonnais, and Societe Generale. A prompt and reliable method of providing the money for the purchases.

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New York, N. Y.

LONDON PARIS BORDEAUX

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